

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

In response to the Office Action mailed from the United States Patent and Trademark Office on December 24, 2009, Applicant responds to the issues raised in the Office Action in the order presented in the Office Action. Claims 1, 3, 5-7, 9, 10, 47 and 50 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Payne (US 2,403,608) in view of Richards (US 4,335,733), and claims 1,3,5-8, 47 and 49-52 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Payne (US 2,403,608) in view of Fortune (US 3,367,625). Claims 1, 3, 5-47 and 49-58 are pending in the application. Claims 11-46 and 53-58 are withdrawn from consideration and claims 1, 3, 5-10, 47 and 49-52 are rejected. Accordingly, Applicant provides the following:

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a):

Claims 1, 3, 5-7, 9, 10, 47 and 51 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Payne et al. (U.S. 2,403,608) in view of Richards (U.S.4,335,733). Applicant respectfully submits that the references cited in the Office Action, either alone or in combination with each other, do not teach or suggest all the claim limitations of the claim set provided herein. Likewise, the references fail to clearly and particularly suggest the allegedly obvious combination advanced by the Examiner. M.P.E.P. § 2141.

The present application is drawn to a coke drum deheading system comprising an upper bonnet coupled to the main body; a lower bonnet coupled to the main body; and a plate located inside one of said upper bonnet and said lower bonnet, wherein the plate comprises a planar surface structured to contact the surface of the blind. The contact between the planar surface of the plate located inside a bonnet and the blind provide an internal coke containment system that maintains substantial isolation of the coke within the system, effectively preventing coke from contaminating the internal components of the valve system. Applicant respectfully submits that the references in the Office Action, either alone or in combination, do not teach or suggest all the limitations claimed in the claim set provided herein, and that there is not a satisfactory showing that one of ordinary skill in the art would take the art teachings to overcome the identified differences under *Graham* between the claimed invention and the teaching of the prior art. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully submits that the cited art does not teach every aspect of the claims as provided herein and therefore does not render the claims obvious as provided herein.

In particular, each of Payne, Richards and Fortune are silent as to a coke drum deheading system comprising an upper bonnet coupled to the main body; a lower bonnet coupled to the main body; and a plate located inside one of said upper bonnet and said lower bonnet, wherein the plate comprises a planar surface structured to contact the surface of the blind. Accordingly, Payne, Fortune and Richards taken alone or in combination fails to disclose a valve capable of operating at the bottom of a coke drum. For at least this reason, Applicant respectfully submits that the prior art references do not, independently or in combination, explicitly or impliedly teach every aspect of the invention as claimed in the independent base claims.

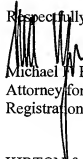
In addition, the dependent claims place further limitations on otherwise allowable subject matter. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully submits that the cited art does not teach every aspect of the claims as provided herein and therefore does not render the claims obvious as provided herein.

CONCLUSION

Applicant submits that the amendments made herein do not add new matter and that the claims are now in condition for allowance. Accordingly, Applicant requests favorable reconsideration. If the Examiner has any questions or concerns regarding this communication, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned.

DATED this 21 day of May, 2010.

Respectfully submitted,


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